

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Retail Access Optimization Initiative

Docket No. N2011-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 4

(Issued August 31, 2011)

The Postal Service is requested to respond to the following questions to clarify the record on its request for an advisory opinion under 39 U.S.C. 3661(c) regarding the examination of continuation of service at approximately 3,650 postal retail locations.¹ In order to facilitate inclusion of the requested material in the evidentiary record, the Postal Service shall have a witness attest to the accuracy of the answers and be prepared to explain, to the extent necessary, the basis for the answers at the hearings. Responses shall be provided no later than September 7, 2011.

1. Please provide, by finance number, for each of the 3,652 facilities selected for discontinuance review, a spreadsheet that includes:

- a. The current operating hours for each day of the week;
- b. The date of any change in the operating hours that has occurred in the past 3 years; and
- c. The operating hours for each day of the week prior to any change in the past 3 years.

¹ Request of the United States Postal Service for an Advisory Opinion on Changes in the Nature of Postal Services, July 27, 2011 (Request).

2. Please provide, for each Cost Ascertainment Group of Postal Service-operated retail facilities:
 - a. Average annual revenue per facility for Fiscal Years 2008, 2009, and 2010;
 - b. The percentage of offices whose operating hours have been increased in the last 3 years; and
 - c. The percentage of offices whose operating hours have been reduced in the last 3 years.
3. The following questions seek information about facilities that are designated as a “gaining” facility for post office box or other postal services.
 - a. Please describe how the Postal Service records and tracks whether a facility being considered for discontinuance has recently been designated as a gaining facility for a discontinued Postal Service operated retail facility.
 - b. Please explain how, in its discontinuance review, the Postal Service gives weight to the fact that a facility was designated as a “gaining” facility for a previously closed Postal Service operated retail facility.
4. Please provide a brief explanation of each type of recording technology used in Postal Service-operated retail facilities (POS, CARS, eMoves, and IRT), including a list of the data fields each technology captures and reports. Please provide a brief explanation of each field that is not clearly named.

5. Please confirm that over the next 5 years the Postal Service intends to apply the review process established in the RAOI to significant numbers of Postal Service retail facilities not already identified in the current proposal.

Ruth Y. Goldway
Presiding Officer